

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Licensed connections to network resources or services, such as servers or applications, are managed, including setting, limiting, monitoring, enforcing, recording, reporting, or otherwise managing licenses across multiple network resources. Real-time information that tracks license usage is logged. Reporting features are provided to allow a system administrator, vendor, network operator, or other entity to access the log information to determine license usage and compliance. Layer 7 information is used for determining distribution of licensed connections, including an implementation where connection to mail servers is distributed according to username. License management may be performed with or without using load-balancing technology.

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